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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/730,328	12/08/2003	Yosuke Watanabe	P/126-227	2378

7590 04/25/2007
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036-8403

EXAMINER

DABNEY, PHYLESHA LARVINIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/25/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/730,328

Applicant(s)

WATANABE ET AL.

Examiner

Phylesha L. Dabney

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/8/03.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 16-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/8/03; 4/4/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2614

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the application filed on 8 December 2003 in which claims 1-22 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-3, 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mizuta (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0064758).

The applied reference has a common assignee/inventor with the instant application.

Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another,” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Regarding claims 1-2, Mizuta et al teaches a wiring device for use in a folding portable device including an upper unit (201), a lower unit (101) and a hinge unit mechanically connecting said upper unit to said lower unit (300), said hinge unit (figs. 4-5) having a rotating axis for rotating said upper unit in relation to said lower unit and a folding/unfolding axis

Art Unit: 2614

perpendicular to the rotating axis for folding/unfolding said upper unit in relation to said lower unit, said wiring device comprising (paragraphs 0024-0025, 0076-0079, 90; figs. 4-5): a rotative direction wound portion having a first central axis corresponding to the rotating axis for being wound with a first part of a flexible printed cable which electrically connects said upper unit to said lower unit; and a folding/unfolding direction wound portion having a second central axis corresponding to the folding/unfolding axis for being wound with a second part of said flexible printed cable.

Regarding claims 3 and 19, Mizuta teaches a wiring device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said hinge unit has a folding/unfolding shaft with a thinner part thinner than the other part thereof to be used for said folding/unfolding direction wound portion (figs. 4-5).

Regarding claim 16, Mizuta teaches an apparatus having an inherent methodology for a wiring method for wiring a flexible printed cable between an upper unit (201) and a lower unit (101) of a folding portable device, said upper unit and said lower unit mechanically connected to each other by a hinge unit (figs. 4-5) having a rotating axis for rotating said upper unit in relation to said lower unit and a folding/unfolding axis perpendicular to the rotating axis for folding/unfolding said upper unit in relation to said lower unit, comprising the steps of: fixing a predetermined part of said flexible printed cable to said hinge unit; winding a first winding part of said flexible printed cable around a rotative direction wound portion having a first central axis corresponding to the rotating axis; and winding a second winding part of said flexible printed cable around a folding/unfolding direction wound portion having a second central axis

Art Unit: 2614

corresponding to the folding/unfolding axis (paragraphs 0024-0025, 0076-0079, 90; figs. 4-5).

Regarding claims 17-18, Mizuta teaches a folding portable device (figs. 4-5) including an upper unit (201), a lower unit (101) and a hinge unit (figs. 4-5) for mechanically connecting said upper unit to said lower unit, said hinge unit having a rotating axis for rotating said upper unit in relation to said lower unit and a folding/unfolding axis perpendicular to the rotating axis for folding/unfolding said upper unit in relation to said lower unit, said folding portable device comprising: a flexible printed cable (paragraph 90) for electrically connecting said upper unit to said lower unit; a rotative direction wound portion having a first central axis corresponding to the rotating axis for being wound with a first part of said flexible printed cable around the rotating axis; and a folding/unfolding direction wound portion having a second central axis corresponding to the folding/unfolding axis for being wound with a second part of said flexible printed cable around the folding/unfolding axis (paragraphs 0024-0025, 0076-0079, 90; figs. 4-5).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-15 are allowed. With respect to these claims, the prior art of record fails to teach a wiring device for use in a folding portable device including an upper unit, a lower unit and a hinge unit mechanically connecting said upper unit to said lower unit, said hinge unit having a rotating axis for rotating said upper unit in relation to said lower unit and a folding/unfolding axis perpendicular to the rotating axis for folding/unfolding said upper unit in relation to said lower unit, said wiring device comprising: a rotative direction wound portion wound with a first part of a flexible printed cable; a folding/unfolding direction wound portion

Art Unit: 2614

wound with a second part of said flexible printed cable; and a cable fixing portion for fixing a third part between said first part and said second part of said flexible printed cable, as substantially described and connected with the other functional language of the recited claims.

Claim 4-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phylesha L. Dabney whose telephone number is 571-272-7494. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:
(703) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "Proposed" or "Draft" when submitting an informal amendment.

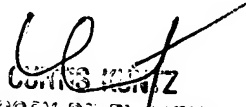
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401 Dulany Street
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Art Unit: 2614

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

March 29, 2007

PLD 


CONTRIBUTOR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000